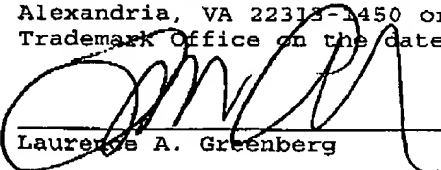


Practitioner's Docket No.: HEM 98/644 (HA-2494)

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Laurence A. GreenbergMarch 8, 2006
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No. : 09/481,640 Confirmation No.: 5923
Applicants : David Elliott Whitten, et al.
Filed : January 12, 2000
Title : Variable Length Cutting Device
Art Unit : 3724
Examiner : Clark F. Dexter
Customer No.: 24131

RESPONSE under 37 CFR § 1.116

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S i r :

Responsive to the Office action dated December 14, 2005,
kindly consider the following remarks:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.